APPENDICES

A. ENABLING LEGISLATION

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

(P.L. 90-542, as amended) (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) An Act

To provide for a National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that,

(a) this Act may be cited as the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act."

Congressional declaration of policy.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Congress declares that the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.

Congressional declaration of purpose.

(c) The purpose of this Act is to implement this policy by instituting a national wild and scenic rivers system, by designating the initial components of that system, and by prescribing the methods by which and standards according to which additional components may be added to the system from time to time.

Composition of system; requirements for State components.

SECTION 2. (a) The national wild and scenic rivers system shall comprise rivers (i) that are authorized for inclusion therein by Act of Congress, or (ii) that are designated as wild, scenic or recreational rivers by or pursuant to an act of the legislature of the State or States through which they flow, that are to be permanently administered as wild, scenic or recreational rivers by an agency or political subdivision of the State or States concerned, that are found by the Secretary of the Interior, upon application of the Governor of the State or the Governors of the States concerned, or a person or persons thereunto

duly appointed by him or them, to meet the criteria established in this Act and such criteria supplementary thereto as he may prescribe, and that are approved by him for inclusion in the system, including, upon application of the Governor of the State concerned, the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, Maine; that segment of the Wolf River, Wisconsin, which flows through Langlade County; and that segment of the New River in North Carolina extending from its confluence with Dog Creek downstream approximately 26.5 miles to the Virginia State line. Upon receipt of an application under clause (ii) of this subsection, the Secretary shall notify the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and publish such application in the Federal Register. Each river designated under clause (ii) shall be administered by the State or political subdivision thereof without expense to the United States other than for administration and management of federally owned lands. For purposes of the preceding sentence, amounts made available to any State or political subdivision under the Land and Water Conservation [Fund] Act of 1965 or any other provision of law shall not be treated as an expense to the United States. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to provide for the transfer to, or administration by, a State or local authority of any federally owned lands which are within the boundaries of any river included within the system under clause (ii).

Classification.

- (b) A wild, scenic or recreational river area eligible to be included in the system is a free-flowing stream and the related adjacent land area that possesses one or more of the values referred to in Section 1, subsection (b) of this Act. Every wild, scenic or recreational river in its free-flowing condition, or upon restoration to this condition, shall be considered eligible for inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system and, if included, shall be classified, designated, and administered as one of the following:
- (1) Wild river areas -- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.
- (2) Scenic river areas -- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- (3) Recreational river areas -- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Congressionally designated components.

SECTION 3. (a) The following rivers and the land adjacent thereto are hereby designated as components of the national wild and scenic rivers system:

- (1) CLEARWATER, MIDDLE FORK, IDAHO. -- The Middle Fork from the town of Kooskia upstream to the town of Lowell; the Lochsa River from its junction with the Selway at Lowell forming the Middle Fork, upstream to the Powell Ranger Station; and the Selway River from Lowell upstream to its origin; to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- (2) ELEVEN POINT, MISSOURI. -- The segment of the river extending downstream from Thomasville, to State Highway 142; to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.1a
- (3) FEATHER, CALIFORNIA. -- The entire Middle Fork downstream from the confluence of its tributary streams one kilometer south of Beckwourth, California; to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- (4) RIO GRANDE, NEW MEXICO. -- The segment extending from the Colorado State line downstream to the State Highway 96 crossing, and the lower four miles of the Red River; to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior.
- (5) ROGUE, OREGON. -- The segment of the river extending from the mouth of the Applegate River downstream to the Lobster Creek Bridge; to be administered by agencies of the Departments of the Interior or Agriculture as agreed upon by the Secretaries of said Departments or as directed by the President.
- (6) SAINT CROIX, MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN. -- The segment between the dam near Taylors Falls, Minnesota, and the dam near Gordon, Wisconsin, and its tributary, the Namekagon, from Lake Namekagon downstream to its confluence with the Saint Croix; to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior; Provided, That except as may be required in connection with items (a) and (b) of this paragraph, no funds available to carry out the provisions of this Act may be expended for the acquisition or development of lands in connection with, or for administration under this Act of, that portion of the Saint Croix River between the dam near Taylors Falls, Minnesota, and the upstream end of Big Island in Wisconsin, until sixty days after the date on which the Secretary has transmitted to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives a proposed cooperative agreement between the Northern States Power Company and the United States (a) whereby the company agrees to convey to the United States, without charge, appropriate interests in certain of its lands between the dam near Taylors Falls, Minnesota, and the upstream end

of Big Island in Wisconsin, including the company's right, title, and interest to approximately one hundred acres per mile, and (b) providing for the use and development of other lands and interests in land retained by the company between said points adjacent to the river in a manner which shall complement and not be inconsistent with the purposes for which the lands and interests in land donated by the company are administered under this Act. Said agreement may also include provision for State or local governmental participation as authorized under subsection (e) of section 10 of this Act. A one-thousand-threehundred-and-eighty-acre portion of the area commonly known as the Velie Estate, located adjacent to the Saint Croix River in Douglas County, Wisconsin, as depicted on the map entitled, "Boundary Map/Velie Estate--Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway," dated September 1980, and numbered 630-90,001, may be acquired by the Secretary without regard to any acreage limitation set forth in subsection (b) of this section or subsection (a) or (b) of section 6 of this Act.

- (7) SALMON, MIDDLE FORK, IDAHO. -- From its origin to its confluence with the main Salmon River; to be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- (8) WOLF, WISCONSIN. -- From the Langlade-Menominee County line downstream to Keshena Falls; to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior.
- (9) LOWER SAINT CROIX, MINNESOTA AND WISCONSIN. -The segment between the dam near Taylors Falls and its confluence
 with the Mississippi River: Provided, (i) That the upper twenty-seven
 miles of this river segment shall be administered by the Secretary of the
 Interior; and (ii) That the lower twenty-five miles shall be designated
 by the Secretary upon his approval of an application for such designation made by the Governors of the States of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

B. ST. CROIX NSR GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

Purpose of the Upper Riverway

The purpose of a park unit stems from the reason or set of reasons why it was set aside as part of the national park system. These reasons typically are found in the unit's enabling legislation and in its legislative history.

For the upper riverway, purpose comes directly from the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (see appendix A). The act establishes a system of free-flowing rivers that possess exceptional scenic, recreational, natural, cultural, or other outstandingly remarkable values. The act, among other things, directs that components of the riverway system be administered in ways that protect and enhance the values that make the rivers exceptional. The act stipulates that management plans for riverways may establish varying degrees of protection and development in order to maintain essential riverway values. Finally, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits the construction of any new structures or features that will impede or detract from the free-flowing qualities of the Riverway.

The purposes of the Upper Riverway are to:

- Preserve the upper St. Croix River and its Namekagon tributary in a natural condition and as relatively free-flowing rivers.
- Protect and enhance the exceptional natural, scenic, and cultural resources of the Riverway for current and future generations.
- Provide high-quality recreational opportunities that do not detract from the exceptional natural, scenic, cultural, and aesthetic resources and values of the Riverway.

Significance of the Upper Riverway

Significance statements address what makes the area special — why it is important to our natural and/or cultural heritage and how it differs from other rivers in the country.

Significance statements are not a litany of important protected resources (e.g., national register sites). Instead, they are the outstanding qualities and values that make the area unique. Without these qualities the area would not be eligible for inclusion in the national park system, and in the case of the Riverway, for inclusion in the national wild and scenic rivers system as well.

The Riverway's significance statements flesh out the purpose of the riverway by further identifying and providing context for the resources, values, and experiences that make the riverway a special place.

The Upper Riverway is significant because:

- The St. Croix River is one of the last undisturbed, large floodplain rivers in the upper Mississippi River system.
- The Riverway is an unrivaled combination of exceptional natural resources and scenic, aesthetic, cultural, and recreational values in proximity to major urban population centers in the Upper Midwest.

Specifically, the Upper Riverway has a number of outstandingly remarkable natural resource values:

- Ninety percent of the Upper Riverway retains the essential qualities of a free-flowing river in spite of the presence of several small dams and one large dam.
- The high quality of the water of the Upper St. Croix River resulted in both Wisconsin and Minnesota designating it as "outstanding resource waters," which is the highest designation possible.
- The upper St. Croix Riverway is a protected north-south corridor that serves as a refuge for large populations of diverse flora and fauna, including federally and state-listed threatened and endangered species.
- The St. Croix River contains the greatest diversity of mussels in the upper Mississippi River system.

In additional the Riverway has numerous remarkable scenic, aesthetic, cultural, and recreational values:

- The Upper St. Croix combines high-quality river canoeing with multi-day canoe camping along 200 miles of a scenic, publicly managed and accessible, and relatively undeveloped river shoreline.
- As they travel the Riverway, visitors can observe the convergence of three terrestrial biological communities (prairie, hardwood forest, and coniferous forest) and cold- and warm-water communities.
- The St. Croix River has a national reputation for excellent small-mouth bass fishing and the Namekagon River for trout fishing.
- Visitors have extended opportunities to experience the solitude and beauty inherent in the Riverway's exceptional natural resources.
- The St. Croix and Namekagon rivers, a traditional corridor between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Valley, retain numerous archeological and historic resources that reflect centuries of human use of a riverine environment.

C. LOWER ST. CROIX NSR COOPERATIVE MGMT. PLAN: PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE

Purpose of the Lower Riverway

The purposes, significance, and exceptional resources/values of the Lower Riverway are three of the key elements that shaped the development of the Cooperative Management Plan. These reaffirm the previously identified outstandingly remarkable values. The purposes tell why the Lower St. Croix was set aside as a unit in the national wild and scenic rivers system. The significance of the Lower Riverway addresses what makes the area special — why it is important to our natural and/or cultural heritage and how it differs from other rivers in the country. The Lower Riverway's exceptional resources/values further elaborate why the Lower St. Croix is significant.

Based on the above fundamental principles and the Lower Riverway's enabling legislation, legislative history, management agency policies, public input, and the following purpose and significance statements and exceptional resources/values were identified for the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.

The purposes of the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway are to

- Preserve and protect (and restore and enhance where appropriate) for present and future generations the lower riverway's ecological integrity, its natural and scenic resources, and its significant cultural resources.
- Accommodate a diverse range of recreational opportunities that do not detract from the exceptional natural, cultural, scenic, and aesthetic resources.]
- Provide an environment that allows the opportunity for peace and solitude.
- Provide an opportunity for the education and study of the geologic, cultural, ecological, and aesthetic values to further enhance stewardship of the Riverway.

Significance of the Lower Riverway

The Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway is significant for the following reasons:

- The Riverway is an exceptional combination of high-quality natural and cultural resources, and scenic, aesthetic, and recreational values.
- These resources and values exist in a distinctive river valley setting with a strong regional identity and character.
- These resources and values exist within the expanding Twin Cities metropolitan area.

The Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway contains the following exceptional resources and values:

- The valley's varied cultural resources reflect its significant role over thousands of years as a river transportation corridor.
- The values of the Minnesota and Wisconsin communities provide a broad constituency for the management and preservation of the Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway.
- The 52 miles of the Lower St. Croix River is at the junction of three major biomes: conifer-hardwood forest, deciduous forest-woodland, and the prairie. The Riverway has high water quality from a myriad of sources in the watershed.
- The juxtaposition of landforms and geologic features, including the bluffs, islands, The Dalles, and Lake St. Croix, are unique.
- Towns along the Riverway corridor retain their historic small town character.
- The diversity of scenic, geologic, economic, cultural, recreational, and exceptional natural resources combine to make the Lower St. Croix River an outstanding and accessible resource for the Upper Midwest.
- The natural communities, both terrestrial and aquatic, are diverse and of high quality. The sloughs, backwaters, braided streams, and other river features provide habitat for native plants and animals. Rare and endangered plants and animals, including mussels, eagles, and others, thrive here. The river corridor is an important flyway for migrating birds and contains and exceptional fishery.
- The exceptional characteristics and diversity of the linear Riverway provide for a wide variety of high-quality recreational experiences. People can easily find opportunities, ranging from peace and solitude to dynamic social interaction.

D. ACCESSIBILITY POLICY

Special Populations: Programmatic Accessibility

It is the policy of St. Croix National Scenic Riverway to promote full access to its interpretive media so that people with physical and mental disabilities have access to information necessary for a safe and meaningful visit to the Riverway. Just as the needs and abilities of individuals cannot be reduced to simple statements, it is difficult to construct guidelines for interpretive media that can apply to every situation.

However, it is possible to define a high level of programmatic access which can be met in most situations, articulate key areas of concern, and note generally accepted solutions. Because of the diversity of the Riverway's resources and the variety of interpretive situations, flexibility and versatility are important.

Each interpretive medium contributes to the total park program. All media have inherent strengths and weaknesses, and it is the Riverway's intent to capitalize on their strengths and provide alternatives where they are deficient. It is understood that any interpretive medium is just one component of the overall park experience. In some instances, especially with regard to learning disabilities, personal services may be the most appropriate and versatile interpretive approach.

Success or failure should be evaluated by examining all interpretive offerings of the Riverway. Because of the unique characteristics of each situation, accessibility should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The goal is to fully comply with NPS policy:

"...To provide the highest level of accessibility possible and feasible for persons with visual, hearing, mobility, and mental impairments, consistent with the obligation to conserve park resources and preserve the quality of the park experience for everyone." NPS Special Directive 83-3, Accessibility for Disabled Persons

A complete list of accessibility guidelines for interpretive media is available upon request.